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conclusions drawn from the entire exhibit. The several chapters are careful condensations of much fuller reports by German scholars, containing the significant features of these reports for American teachers. To one who finds difficulty with the German language, or who lacks the patience to wade through the long and complete reports of the Germans, these synopses will be very welcome. Furthermore, reference is in every case given to the complete report, so that those who care to familiarize themselves more fully with the detail of these reports may readily do so.

This number of the *Record* will be highly appreciated by American students in mathematics. It can be clearly seen from it that the Germans are grappling with their problems with a high degree of success, that their methods and progress are far superior to ours, that many of the problems with which they are dealing are also our problems, and it may also be gathered, between the lines, that the solutions they are giving in many instances are pertinent to the problems now before us. What attitude is being taken by the leading teachers of Germany on the Klein reform movement in teaching, what significance there is to this reform, what meaning it may have for our own conditions, can be fairly well gauged from this collection of reports. The teacher who is trying to keep abreast with current mathematical movements will want to get at just such information as these reports contain. The interpretations made by the several authors cannot always be accepted in the form in which they are given; but enough of the basis for these interpretations is given to enable one to formulate his own conclusions.

The idea of a few years since, that what is being done in the culture countries of Europe on the teaching of mathematics has little or no significance for us, is now in a decadent state. The report makes it clear that very much of direct value to the mathematical teacher can be gotten by learning how the work is done in Germany, no matter if the conditions of German education do differ materially from our own. Every teacher of mathematics in the late grades or in secondary schools should have this report at his elbow.

*A Beginner's Star Book.* By KELVIN MCKREADY. New York: Putnam, 1912. Pp. viii+148. With many charts and illustrations. \$2.50 net.

This book has been written primarily for the general student who is interested in the stars and loves the study of them, whether he is in school or out of school. There is an introduction of seven pages in which the author considers our heritage in the stars and explains the sky as it is mapped out for study purposes. Then follow chapters on objects to be seen in the stellar world, on learning to observe, on star maps for anyone, on objects to be seen in the solar system, on instruments of observation. Then come catalogues of telescopic objects for the use of students, and statistical tables, an index, and a few additional maps. The book is written in popular style and the

large page makes possible the introduction of some excellent reproductions of photographs. These photographs have been furnished by the Yerkes Observatory, Mt. Wilson Observatory, Lick Observatory, the Lowell Observatory, and others of the highest grade of excellence. The objects selected for photographic reproduction are well chosen to make the reader generally familiar with the various classes of objects within the reach of small telescopes. The text is written in simple style, though, considering the audience to which it is directed, the writer feels the style a bit dry. The explanations, however, are accurate and simple, and the book will meet a real need in those rare persons who interest themselves in the sky because of the pleasure there is in it. From p. 38 to p. 61 there are charts of different parts of the sky, showing objects for the opera glass, field glass, or small telescope, and facing these charts are given maps which enable the beginner readily to identify all the objects presented. Below the charts and key maps are excellent directions as to the objects that will be of most interest to the beginner. The chapter on the sun is of peculiar interest and value. Also the photographs of the moon and planets and the most reliable results of observation will charm the reader and make him want more of this wonderful subject. Sufficient explanation on the instruments of observation to make the amateur or older student intelligent in their use is given in chap. iv.

The writer can but commend the undertaking of the author of this book without reserve. There should be more of such books. The list of names of constellations and stars with their correct pronunciations indicated, together with important information for the observer at the close of the book, is of value also. The information contained in the lists is from the most recent observations and great effort has been made to have this information reliable. On the whole the book will do much to stimulate an interest in astronomy among those persons who do not have access to great and expensive instrumental equipment, but who can easily provide themselves with sufficient apparatus to afford perennial enjoyment in the study of the stars. The publishers certainly deserve great credit for the excellence of their work.

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